India extended the parole period of two months *vide* their order dated 24.7.96 for a further period of three months on the surities already provided.

Subsequently, the Hon'ble supreme Court of India *vide* its order dated 3.10.1996 commuted the sentences of life imprisonment awarded to the hijackers to the imprisonment already undergone by the convicts.

(c) No Sir. Release of the accused was done after due process of law had been undergone.

(d) does not arise.

Murder of Orissa Trade Union Leader

1423. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Orissa has referred the murder case of Bichitha Mallick an INTUC leader for CBI inquiry; and

(b) whether CBI inquiry has been abnormally delayed and this has created great discontentment among all the organised workers in Paradeep Port, Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On receipt of the State Government's letter dated 28.2.2000, the matter has been taken up with the CBI.